

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

California



SYLMAR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

PRESIDENT: Christian Rubalcava

VICE PRESIDENTS:

Administration: Andres Rubalcava

Communications: Maria Silva

SECRETARY: Michelle Underwood

TREASURER: George Ortega

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**Sylmar Neighborhood Council
General Board Meeting – Draft Minutes
Thursday, January 23, 2020 – 6:30 PM
Sylmar Charter High School- Spartan Hall
13050 Borden Ave. Sylmar, CA 91342**

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Vote Eligible	Category
Acevedo, Brielle	Present	Yes	At-Large
Bloom, Kathy	Present	Yes	CBO
Blose, Cheri	Present	Yes	ER
Cabrera, Hector	Present	Yes	At-Large
Durio, Chad	Absent (Arrived at 7:50PM)	No	At-Large
Floresta, Lucille	Present	Yes	Business
Gonzales, David	Present	Yes	Renter
Lara, Carlos	Absent	Yes	Business
Magana, Veronica	Absent	Yes	CBO
McMillan, Penelope	(Resigned)	Yes	Senior
Montano, Guadalupe	Absent	Yes	Home/Condo
Opperman, Bob	Present	Yes	Home/Condo
Ortega, George	Present	Yes	Recreation
Pacheco, John	Present	Yes	At-Large
Rubalcava, Andres	Absent	Yes	Home/Condo
Rubalcava, Christian	Present	Yes	Renter
Silva, Maria	Present	Yes	Home/Condo
Underwood, Michelle	Absent	Yes	Business
Velasquez, Jose	Absent	Yes	Education
Zelaya, Donald	Absent	Yes	At-Large
Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Youth
TOTAL: 20	PRESENT 11 ABSENT 09		

- 1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance:** The meeting was called to order at 6:36PM by Mr. C. Rubalcava. There were 13 stakeholders present. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. C. Rubalcava.
- 2. Roll Call:** Roll Call was called by Mr. C. Rubalcava there were 14 Boardmembers present and quorum (11) was met.

SNC ITEM 2 Roll Call	
Present –11	Absent-08
Acevedo, Bloom, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Gonzales, Opperman, Ortega, Pacheco, C. Rubalcava, Silva,	Durio, Lara, Magana, Montano, A. Rubalcava, Underwood, Velasquez, Zelaya,

3. **Housekeeping and Welcome from Facility Host:** The bathrooms are open and refreshments are on the table. Please help yourself to snacks anytime during the meeting.

4. **Public Official and Community Representative Announcements & Presentations:**

- a. **Michael Menjivar New Representative for, L.A.U.S.D School Boardmember Gonez:** Michael has been on a Neighborhood Council and appreciates all the work that NC’s do. District 6 represents 165 schools in the LAUSD. Any questions or issues, please reach out to him. There is an Art Contest for any students in the local district and they will host an art gallery on February 20, 2020 to view the submissions at the Pacoima Field Office, please spread the word. There is a flyer on the table. There will be a Picnic in the Park at Hansen Dam Recreation Center on April 18, 2020 from 2:00PM to 4:00PM Resource Fair and Census information, the event is free.

- b. **Field Deputy Juan Solorio, Monica Rodriguez’s office: Rocio Hernandez, District Director** is covering for Juan Solorio. Office received phone calls from neighbors surrounding Sylmar Creek channel and Dept. of Sanitation recently completed removal of overgrown weeds at Bledsoe and Glenoaks. The area has been worked on for the last 6 weeks. 35,000 pounds, a total of 250 cubic yards of trash and debris have been removed. They will be continuing south of Bledsoe. The city has been doing tree trimming in the area, about 2,000 trees trimmed. On social media there has been misinformation on parking restrictions. Since the Councilmember took office 2-½ years ago she’s introduced 9 motions for parking restrictions of oversized vehicles with 3 in the Sylmar area. This is an average number of motions that have been introduced across the city. These restrictions do not include additional street restrictions that they work with LAPD. If any additional locations / recommendations, contact their office. Rocio did not have the locations with her but recalls they include Gladstone, Bradley, Bledsoe, and Polk for oversized vehicles which include RVs and 18 wheeler box trucks. Stakeholder question re: Fire Station and when Monica Rodriguez will attend a Sylmar NC meeting with the community? November meeting had Doug Tripp, Chief of Staff attend and gave a detailed update on the Sylmar Fire Station. Once he has another update, he will come out to a Sylmar NC meeting. Stakeholder Comment: Monica promised that she would make Sylmar a priority and it’s recommended she comes out to hear herself and not through her staff. Rocio stated that the Councilwoman is committed to the fire station. Rocio emphasized that phase one of their effort to clean up around the canal and the encampment, the city is working to determine the property lines and possibly install fencing on the city boundary.

- c. **Brenda Yanez Zamora, Field Deputy for Assemblymember Luz Rivas Office:** Assembly is back in session. Ms. Rivas is back in Sacramento and has introduced 5 new bills: **AB1858** - CA Youth Empowerment Act was written to include the voice of Youth. The duties of this first-ever Commission would include promote civic engagement, education, social equality, human and social services, workforce development, and public safety for our youth. **AB1845** to assist in ending homeless crisis to create Governor’s office on homelessness as lead State entity and coordinate with Federal, State and Local housing. **AB 1937 is a continuation of previous legislation, AB 16**, which sought to establish a comprehensive policy solution to assist local communities that are struggling to identify, and provide services to homeless families with

children, but was vetoed last year. **AB 1937** will create three geographically located County Offices of Education to develop Regional Technical Assistance Centers, to implement best practices used for identifying and connecting homeless students to services. Additionally, this legislation will create a standardized process for identifying homeless children across all of our school systems. **AB1922** would mandate that students learn “the causes and effects” of climate change starting in 2025. **AB 1967** to add computer science to the subject matter. Regarding Homelessness there’s been an increase in encampments along freeway on and off ramps. Those encampments have now been removed from State property on the 210 freeway. They are working to make sure Sylmar is getting their fair share of services. If any encampments are seen, contact their office. Upcoming Events Coffee and Conversation on January 25, 2020 from 9:00AM to 11:00AM in Lake View Terrace. Assemblymember Rivas will also be speaking at a free health fair in partnership with Spectrum Communications and HITI, the largest Spanish broadcasting event in coordination with Congressman Cardenas.

- d. NEA Vanessa Serrano, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment: Absent
- e. Field Rep. Michelle Vergara, Congressman Tony Cardenas: Absent
- f. Benita Trujillo, Supervisor Sheila Kuehl: Absent
- g. Representative East Valley, Office of Mayor Garcetti: Absent
- h. FD Eveline Bravo-Ayala, Senator Hertzberg’s Office: Absent
- i. FD Jarrod Degonia, County Supervisor Kathryn Barger: Absent
- j. Senior Lead Officers: Absent

5. Public Comment on Non-agendized Items within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction.

Tom Stakeholder: Complimented Assemblymember Rivas’s representative for the clean up on state property that has been a huge challenge. Graffiti on the Edison property is not simple and Ms. Rivas is helping to get that cleaned up

Kevin Davis, FTDNC President: spoke as a Budget Advocate inviting participation in the annual White Paper and to consider supporting the NC Budget Advocates. Save the date: June 26, 2020 for the annual Budget Day meeting. Sylmar needs to choose two Budget Representatives and if not the jobs default to the President and Treasurer. Budget Advocates are only funded through Neighborhood Councils. Mr. Davis recommends considering giving funds to the Budget Advocates and the NC Congress. There’s actually an open Budget Advocate position in the North Valley. Mr. Davis looks forward to working with Sylmar now and in the future.

Stakeholder: thanked Assemblymember Rivas for work on the homeless cleanups along the freeway and we need more LAPD presence in the community.

6. President and Executive Committee Report: C. Rubalcava combined Item #6 and 12 Discussion and review of the Sylmar NC budget and priorities agreed upon at the last retreat. The Executive Committee will schedule a special meeting to include the board for a report on the retreat outcomes and the strategic plan in the future. President Rubalcava reviewed the detail of the SNC budget. There is a committed funds document to track where the board has voted and promised funds to go even if they have not been spent yet. These items are available for viewing on the website. Our operations expense is \$27,000. The remainder is Outreach expenses. Other organizations are using our office space as well. Total \$52,495.00

which includes rollover and the Clean Streets fund. The budget has helped Sylmar Neighborhood Council plan for successful events. Thank you to Ms. Acevedo for the amazing Toy Drive. We had 10 bags full of toys that went to Hope Gardens. There's a marijuana dispensary behind the Sylmar. Neighborhood office and they donated toys to the toy drive. Thank you to Mr. Lara and Mr. Kurt Cabrera-Miller for distributing to them. Thank you to Mission College Student Government who solicited food and gift donations and gave them out from our SNC office. Thank you to Mr. Postylmayr who listened to over 50+ concerned neighbors about a development. The Homeless Count was a success with several volunteers. It was run by Ms. Acevedo. Thank you to Ms. Mc Millan, who has resigned, for bringing the wellness classes to the Sylmar Recreation Center for our seniors.

7. Committee Announcements and Reports

- a. Senior Committee: There is a vacancy for the Committee Chair.
- b. The Bylaws Committee: There will be meeting in February. The committee distributed to the board; board rules, code of civility, and conduct for feedback. The committee is looking at three areas of the board rules to update and once completed will present to the board.
- c. Government and Community Relations Committee: No report
- d. The Emergency Preparedness Committee: Sylmar is a high risk area for the Red Cross and they are meeting to train our CERT members to run the shelter. Thank you to Janet Gibson with CERT who has training starting every two weeks.
- e. Equestrian Committee: Will meet next week to continue plans for Make Your Horse Count Day.
- f. Public Safety Committee: Meets on the 2nd Thursday at Oakridge Estates. Expecting speakers from Valley Traffic regarding evacuation around Mission College.
- g. Communications: No report
- h. Homeless Committee: Ms. Acevedo will be attending the Homeless liaison meeting next week. She attended a community input meeting with LA Family Housing. Well thought out temporary women's shelter which will include escorts and no loitering around this facility. Great to see members of the Homeowners Association attend. Ms. Acevedo will be hosting the next Homeless Committee meeting on February 3, 2020. More members are needed to join the committee.

8. Notice and possible presidential appointment of stakeholders to vacant positions on the board.

The current vacancies are the At-Large seat and the Senior Seat. There's been a lot of interest in the vacant positions but no official applications have been received. President Rubalcava has two people interested but will not be making the appointments tonight. Roxanne Nazario was present and has done a lot of work for the community. The Senior Seat may turn into an At Large Seat. Mr. C. Rubalcava received interest from Rex Allen who is the HOA President with Legends at Cascade. Since applications have not come in the official appointment will be made at the next meeting. Applicants will also come to the Executive Board Meeting to discuss what committees they will be interested in joining.

Tom Stakeholder: Two committees Land Use & Public Safety are chaired by non-board members and they do the most for the community and should be asked to join the board. Have those chairs been asked to join the board?

9. Meet and Greet (15 Minute Break) - Cancelled

10. Discussion and possible action on supporting a public letter relating to Assembly Concurrent Resolution 125: Reducing Bias and Discrimination in Hiring.

Letter went through the Government Community Relations Committee. Rationale is what forms of legislation against bias and discrimination in hiring. Boardmember comment to not support the letter because there isn't enough data on the necessity of the letter. We can speak well of an all inclusive society but the reality is that we're not.

Public Comment: None

Motion Failed

SNC ITEM 10a Motion to support letter relating to Assembly Concurrent Resolution 125: Reducing Bias and Discrimination in Hiring. Moved: Ortega Second: Silva				
Yes –11	No- 00	Abstain–00	Ineligible-00	Absent – 08
Acevedo, Bloom, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Gonzales, Opperman, Ortega, Pacheco, Silva, C. Rubalcava,	NONE	NONE	NONE	Durio, Lara, Magana, Montano, A. Rubalcava, Underwood, Velasquez, Zelaya,

Public Comment: None

Motion Passed

SNC ITEM 10b Motion to send Support letter relating to Assembly Concurrent Resolution 125: Reducing Bias and Discrimination in Hiring, back to The Government and Community Relations Committee. Moved: Gonzales Second: Ortega.				
Yes –10	No- 01	Abstain–00	Ineligible-00	Absent – 08
Acevedo, Bloom, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Gonzales, Opperman, Ortega, Silva, C. Rubalcava,	Pacheco	NONE	NONE	Durio, Lara, Magana, Montano, A. Rubalcava, Underwood, Velasquez, Zelaya,

Chad Durio arrived at 7:50PM

- 11. Discussion and possible action** on supporting an amount not to exceed \$700.00 from Outreach to support breakfast for participants and volunteers at the Homeless Connect Day in March 2020. This event will take place at El Cariso Park. IN n Out is sponsoring lunch. The event is scheduled for March 12, 2020 from 8:00AM-12:00PM.

Public Comment: Stakeholder, The breakfast is for all participants. It will include cheese, fruit, juice, sweet rolls, yogurt, and coffee.

Motion passed

SNC ITEM 11 Motion to approve not to exceed \$700.00 from Outreach to support breakfast for participants and volunteers at the Homeless Connect Day in March 2020 at El Cariso Park. Moved: Pacheco Second: Ortega				
Yes –10	No- 01	Abstain–00	Ineligible-01	Absent – 07
Acevedo, Bloom, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Opperman, Ortega, Pacheco, Silva, C. Rubalcava,	Gonzales	NONE	Durio	Lara, Magana, Montano, A. Rubalcava, Underwood, Velasquez, Zelaya,

- 12. Combined with Item #6 above.**

- 13. Discussion and possible action** on approving the November 2019 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER).

Public Comment: None

Motion: Passed

SNC ITEM 13. Motion to approve the November 2019 Monthly Expenditure Report. Moved: Ortega Second: Gonzales				
Yes –11	No- 00	Abstain–00	Ineligible-01	Absent – 07
Acevedo, Bloom, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Gonzales, Opperman, Ortega, Pacheco, Silva, C. Rubalcava,	None	None	Durio	Lara, Magana, Montano, A. Rubalcava, Underwood, Velasquez, Zelaya,

- 14. Discussion and possible action** on approving the December 2019 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER).

Public Comment: None

Motion: Passed

SNC ITEM 14. Motion to approve the December 2019 Monthly Expenditure Report.				
Moved: Ortega Second: Opperman				
Yes –11	No- 00	Abstain–00	Ineligible-01	Absent – 07
Acevedo, Bloom, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Gonzales, Opperman, Ortega, Pacheco, Silva, C. Rubalcava,	None	None	Durio	Lara, Magana, Montano, A. Rubalcava, Underwood, Velasquez, Zelaya,

15. Board Member Comments and Announcements: Mr. Pacheco agrees with comment about filling two board seats and to consider committee chairs to be recommended to join the board. Cherie knows that president doesn't want anyone from the old board coming back on the board and that he should see past the election. Ms. Silva asked if these chairs have expressed interest to come back on the board and that they can apply if they want. Mr. Ortega said that he hasn't always been liked and was not chosen in the past but has worked to return to the board. Mr. C. Rubalcava has offered them committee chair positions. He's spoken to Diane. His motto is to bring fresh faces to the board. Has great respect for the two chairs and tries to get their items onto the agenda and their budget items on the agenda. He has not received applications from the committee chairs, please encourage them to submit if they are interested in joining the board. The application is on the SylmarNeighborhoodCouncil.org website under the Bylaws section. The open positions have not been posted on the website.
16. Future Agenda Items Write to Executive Board by email at ExecutiveBoard@SylmarNC.org or mail Executive Board c/o Sylmar Neighborhood Council, P.O. Box 921023, Sylmar, CA 91392-10 Closing Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Adjournment

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:01PM (no vote was taken).

**The Next Sylmar Neighborhood Council General Board meeting will be:
February 27, 2020 at 6:30PM
Sylmar Charter High School
13050 Borden Ave. Sylmar, CA 91342**